

July 21, 2024 PM – Pastor Kevin Olivier  
**Romans 6:1-18** – “Slaves of Righteousness”

How do you know God has done a work of grace in your life? **1 Jn 3:14** says, “**We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love abides in death.**”

Live as a slave righteous rather than a slave to sin.	I. HOW YOU CAN BE FREED FROM SLAVERY TO SIN II. HOW YOU ARE TO LIVE AS A SLAVE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS
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I. **HOW YOU CAN BE FREED FROM SLAVERY TO SIN** → **vv1-2**

A. Do not sin so that grace abounds saying, “I am going to sin any way that I want because I know God will forgive me.”

1. There may be some who say and even do that; however, why isn’t that more prevalent in the Reformed, Christian circles?
2. The Holy Spirit restrains us.

B. You have wages that must be paid to purchase your freedom → **Rom 6:23**

1. Most of you earn wages at work. In a similar fashion, we earn a debt of sin— a very long list or tally of sins and the just penalty of God’s wrath for those sins.
2. People often say they are a “good person” yet the tally of their sins is much longer than they realize.

a. **WSC 82.** “Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?”

“No mere man, since the fall, is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.”

a. The good news of the gospel that the immense tally of sins has been paid in full by Christ for those who put sincere saving faith in Him. **Col 2:14** says, “**the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.**”

C. You must be spiritually united with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection → **vv6-11**

1. The old self has been crucified with Christ.
2. Believers have a vital spiritual union with Christ
  - a. You are part of Him in the same fashion as a branch that has been grafted into a tree
  - b. → **Jn 15:4-11**
3. You are no longer under the law but under grace as means of salvation if you embrace Christ as your Lord and Savior.
  - a. You are still under the law of God as a guide or direction as how you ought to live.
  - b. You can never be saved by law-keeping; however, your salvation changed your heart so you desire to keep the law of God in a way you never did before your conversion.

## II. HOW YOU ARE TO LIVE AS A SLAVE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

A. Paul taught that sin shall no longer have dominion over you. →**v9...vv11-12**

1. The key words to consider here is “**reign.**” Sin shall not have dominion over you.
  - a. Christians continue to sin and continue to have a need for daily repentance.
  - b. True believers no longer have a life that is dominated by sin because they are a new creation in Christ.
2. Jesus is your Master. Sin is no longer your master.

B. The goal of Christians ought to be “**obedience from the heart**” rather than some form of legalism.

→**vv17-18**

1. There is a great freedom in obeying God.
2. The goal in raising godly children is that they obey from the heart rather than from the threat of punishment.
3. Do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness.
  - a. One way you know that you have become a slave of righteousness is that you no longer can sin with a peace of conscience.
  - b. Those things that you once loved, you now hate.

C. Being a slave of righteousness enables you to walk by the Spirit rather than carry out the desires of the flesh. →**Gal 5:16-26**

Review, further application, and conclusion: